
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Greg Waddell.

DIGEST

Mount (SB 257)

Present law provides that Department of Social Services shall consist of the following offices:

- (1) The office of community services.
- (2) The office of family support.
- (3) The office of management and finance.

Proposed law changes the name of the Department of Social Services to the Department of Children and Family Services.

Proposed law consolidates the offices provided for in present law into the office of children and family services.

Proposed law provides for two deputy secretaries who are appointed by the governor to direct and be responsible for the functions of the division of programs and the division of operations within the office of children and family services.

Present law provides for an undersecretary to direct and be responsible for the office of management and finance.

Proposed law retains the provision for an undersecretary but directs that the position be responsible for the functions of the division of management and finance within the office of children and family services.

Proposed law provides that the office of children and family services shall perform the following functions and services:

- (1) Public assistance programs to provide aid to dependent children and to adults, who due to age, disability, or infirmity, are unable to adequately meet their basic needs.
- (2) The administration of the food stamp program, child support programs, establishment of paternity programs, disaster relief grant programs for individuals and families, and such other programs as assigned by the secretary.
- (3) The public child welfare functions of the state, including but not limited to prevention services which promote, facilitate, and support activities to prevent child abuse and neglect; child protective services; voluntary family strengthening and support services;

making permanent plans for foster children and meeting their daily maintenance needs of food, shelter, clothing, necessary physical medical services, school supplies, and incidental personal needs; and adoption placement services for foster children freed for adoption.

- (4) Functions of the state relating to the licensing of child care facilities that do not receive federal funds under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and day care centers and agencies and issue and monitor domestic violence services contracts.

Proposed law directs the Louisiana Law Institute to change all references to the "Department of Social Services" to the "Department of Children and Family Services" and all references to the "office of community services" or "the office of family support" to the "office of children and family services" throughout the Revised Statutes.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 36:3(4) and (7), 4(A)(10), 8(E)(2)(d), 9(C), 471(A), (B) and (C), 472, 473, 474(A)(8), (B)(1)(a)(i) and (b), 475, 475.1(A), (B) and (C), and 477; repeals R.S. 36:474(E) and 476)